Editorial Comment

On Small Towns

As residents of Appomattox, most of us understand and appreciate the advantages of small-town life.

There are times, however, when it is easy to lose sight of one of the most important mechanisms of the small-town economy: dealing with the people who deal with you.

At Christmas, residents of Appomattox should make every effort to keep their business in Appomattox. Perhaps 15 years ago it was true that there were certain goods and services that could not be found in Appomattox. Now, however, almost anything the consumer might want can be found at one of the many fine stores in Appomattox.

We have several fine clothing stores, two excellent jewelers, well-stocked department stores, full-line hardwares, florists and gift shops, automotive-supplies dealers, experienced grocers, several fine restaurants, home appliance stores, furniture stores, and a skating rink for the young people, to name but a few.

Appomattox also offers all the services a consumer might need, as well: dentists, financial specialists, an optometrist, attorneys, accountants, medical doctors, insurance specialists, and a variety of other professionals ready to serve the residents of Appomattox.

In a nutshell, then, there is really no reason for a person to venture outside the county to seek goods or services, particularly during the holiday season.

While for most it is a statement of the obvious, it is nonetheless appropriate here to outline the reasons why Appomattox residents should keep their business in Appomattox.

Local business provides taxes to keep the town running, and jobs to keep the town alive.

They also contribute to the growth of the locality, attracting shoppers from rural areas, as well as potential future residents and businesses.

Pershaps the Gordon and Ferguson Monthly best summed up the question in "Reasons Why I Should Shop At Home," published in September of 1915:

--Because this is the place I make money and this is the place to spend it.
--Because my interests are here.
--Because I believe in transacting business with my friends.
--Because I want to see the goods.
--Because I want to get what I pay for.
--Because every dollar I spend at home stays at home and works for the development of the community.
--Because the man I buy from stands back of his goods.
--Because I sell what I produce, here at home.
--Because the man I buy from pays his part of the town and county taxes.
--Because the man I buy from helps support my school, my church, my lodge and my home.
--Here is where I live and here is where I buy.

We choose to live in Appomattox, because we enjoy the small-town way of life. Let's not forget that it is our responsibility to see that the small-town way of life stays what it is, and the best way to do that is to keep our business at home.

Energy Series concludes

U.S. - The lion's share of oil

The U. S. has 6 percent of the world's population. Each year, that 6 percent accounts for one-third of all the energy, including one-third of the oil, used by the entire world.

The average per capita energy consumption in the world in 1971 was 58 million Btu's. In the U. S., it was 337 million Btu's.

How did we end up using so much?

When energy was cheap and abundant, it made sense to use it. Energy-consuming machinery took over the work that people used to expend their own energy doing. Replacing hard physical labor with cheap energy made economic sense.

In comparing our energy consumption to that of other countries and peoples, a factor to consider is the respective standard of living. An average Indian may consume less than 2 percent of the energy the average American does, but the standard of living of the average Indian is much lower.

However, while our material standard of living may be considered the best in the world, Western European and other industrialized countries enjoy a similar standard of living while consuming much less energy.

In 1971, when the U. S. per capita energy consumption was 337 million Btu's, the comparable figure (in millions) for France was 117, for Great Britain, 165 and for Japan, 98.

Exactly how do we use all of this energy? There are many ways of classifying our energy consumption.

For example, the pie chart shows U. S. energy usage in 1978, broken down by sector. About 26 percent of our energy was used for transportation, 38 percent by industry and 38 percent by the residential/commercial sector (about 20 percent residential, 18 percent commercial).

The chart also shows the resources (oil, gas, coal, electricity) that provided the energy for each sector. From this, you can see that almost all (97 percent) of the energy used for transportation came from oil.

In industry, about a fourth of the energy was provided by oil, about a third by electricity, less than a third by gas and 13 percent by coal.

In the residential/commercial sector, about a fourth of the energy came from oil, about a fourth from gas and about half from electricity.

Electricity, in turn, is generated from gas, coal, oil, nuclear and hydro (water) power. So, even though your house may be "all-electric," you are in face using coal, or oil, or something else whatever the power plant that generates your electricity uses).

Another way to analyze our energy use is to look at how we use the energy. In the residential sector, about 70 percent of the energy used is for space heating and cooling, while another 15 percent is used for water heating.

In the commercial sector, space and water heating account for over half of energy use, while feedstocks, air conditioning and refrigeration each use about 10 percent of the energy.

Direct heting consumes about a quarter of the energy in the industrial sector, while about half the energy is used for producing process steam.

In the transportation sector, over 75 percent of the energy used goes for highway vehicles (over half for private automobiles), with trucks, airplanes and ships using the rest of the energy.

Another way of looking at our energy use is to examine how much of each resource is used by each sector. This approach is especially helpful when we are trying to figure out, for example, how to cut down on using oil.

Over half the oil we use (53 percent) is consumed by industrial/commercial sector uses oil almost exclusively for space heating and cooling and water heating.

The industrial sector also uses oil that way, but an important use of oil in industry is an "feedstock," in which the oil is used not as fuel but for its chemical properties in manufacturing such things as fertilizers and plastics. As oil has gotten more expensive and scarce, we have been made more aware of the widespread use of such "petrochemicals."

Natural gas is used primarily by industry (41 percent) and the residential/commercial sector (40 percent), mostly for space heating and cooling and water heating.

Nearly three-fourths (74 percent) of coal is used for electrical generation, with only about 2 percent of it used directly for heating by the residential/commercial sector. The 24 percent of coal used by industry is primarily used not for heating but in the production of metals such as steel.

All nuclear and hydro power is used to generate electricity.

References: "National Energy Plan II," May 1979; "Energy Utilization: Commercial, Residential, Industrial," and "Utilization of Energy: Transporta t i o n," prepared by Brevard Community College, Cocoa, Florida, for the DOE; "Energy-Environment Sou rce," a product of the National Science Teachers Association Energy-Environment Materials Project, John M. Fowler, Director.

This article is part of a course of energy offered by the Virginia Tech Mechanical Engineering Department and the Cooperative Extension Service. For more information, call your local extension office.

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Scouts slate court

Appomattox Boy Scout Troop 546 will hold a court of honor Sunday, Dec. 21, at 3 p.m. at St. Anne's Episcopal Church.

Two scouts, Mike Carmody and Luis Garcia, will be advanced to the rank of Eagle Scout at the court.

Friends are invited to attend.

* * *

There will be an open meeting at Monroe Lodge #301 on Lee Street Monday, Dec. 22 at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of honoring four new Eagle Scouts of Appomattox Troop 546.

The public is invited to attend this event.

County Court personnel

Bloodmobile Support

Our county clerk, Barbara Williams and Miss Birdie Harvey plan to be on hand to donate blood on Monday, Dec. 22. Mrs. Carol Miller also works in the clerk's office but in unable to donate so she is sending her husband. She says her husband is a regular donor so we can justly say the clerk's office is 100%. They all feel that it is such a blessing to be healthy and able to give and share life-giving blood with those who need it. How many other county offices or businesses can say they have all of their eligible workers donating blood? Please let me know if you do and we will surely let people know about you too.

Our quota for Monday, Dec. 22 is 200 units but I am really expecting more than 200 to come out. I think that at this time of the year we are all more aware of giving and helping others than at any other time. If you even think you are qualified to give, come on out and check to make sure. Some have even found out that they needed to visit their doctor when they came in to donate.

Remember we are going to have a larger Red Cross staff so I hope you will not have to wait too long, but you probably need the rest, so come on out.

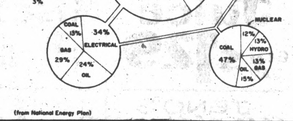
See you on Dec. 22.

Alice C. Martin, Chm. Blood Services

PERCENTAGE OF RESOURCE USED BY EACH SECTOR

Sector	Oil	Gas	Coal	Nuclear	Hydro
Transportation	53%	3%	–	–	–
Industry	18	41	24%	–	–
Res/comm	19	40	2	–	–
Electrical generation	10	16	74	100%	100%

(computed from National Energy Plan figures)



(from National Energy Plan)

Letter to Santa

Dear Santa

I want Star Wars people and ships and matchbox cars for Christmas. Legos. And I love You.

Jeff S. Garrett

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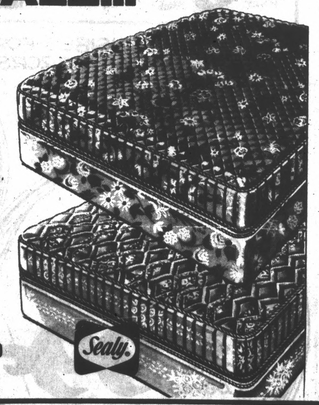

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MRS. IVEY HOLLAND, president of Unit 104 American Legion Auxiliary, member of Blue Ridge Chapter WSDAR and Appomattox County Retired Teachers Association presents Don Armentrout, principal, Appomattox County High School with a new American Legion School Award plaque. On the plaque are the names of the two seniors who received this award and is hung in the school library. The recipients for 1980 were David Caldwell and Susan Parris and it was the fourth such plaque that has been given the school since 1954 by the Legion and Legion Auxiliary.

DR. ROBERT H. LEHMAN, Director of Continuing Education for Longwood College, was the guest speaker for the November meeting of the Appomattox Junior Woman's Club. Dr. Lehman spoke of the many opportunities for adults to continue their education both on a college campus and off-campus. He explained the Consortium District make-up for arranging off-campus classes and answered questions from club members. Following his presentation, a short business meeting was held with Karen Knapp, president, presiding.

Homemakers hold meeting

Concord Young Homemakers Club held its November meeting at the home of Mrs. James Jordan.

Mrs. Helen Franklin, president, presided over the meeting.

The Southside Young Homemakers and Young Farmers, held its Area Convention in November, at Rustburg High School. Fourteen members of our club attended the meeting and banquet supper.

Program for the meeting was "Candy Demonstration," was presented by Mrs. Charlotte Crews of Altavista, Va.

Anniversary celebration planned

The children of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Covington, Sr., will celebrate their parent's 50th wedding anniversary at the Covington home on Dec. 24, from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Even though no invitations are being sent, friends and relatives are cordially invited to attend.

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Bishop visits here

Bishop Walter Sullivan made an annual visit to Our Lady of Peace Catholic Mission Church on Tuesday, Dec. 2, to review the parish spiritual and physical development in Appomattox.

Father Anthony Warner, Pastor of the Holy Cross Catholic Church, Lynchburg, and Dr. Bill Johnston, Director of Religious Education of Holy Cross Attended.

Preliminary plans of the future Parish Center in Appomattox were reviewed and discussed.

Approximately twenty parishioners enjoyed a covered dish luncheon.

Holiday hours announced for Post Office

Window service will be offered at the Appomattox Post Office this Saturday, Dec. 13, from 9 a.m. to noon, according to Postmaster Ora McCoy.

The added service is being offered to accomodate heavy mail traffic during the holiday season.

Not 'Disgusted and Cheated'

Editor:

I am responding to the letter "Disgusted and Cheated" in the November 20 issue of the Times-Virginian.

I am 15 years old and a sophomore at Appomattox County High School. I attended the play "The Diary of Anne Frank" when it was presented to the student body as did many of the students of the high school. I thought the play was very good but I also realize that Appomattox is an agricultural community and that its local paper has many articles by the extension agents to help the rural families.

We also have religious and school activities and sports events, 4-H club and Scout news, all of which are of wide interest to the area residents. Personal items and ads are important. All of these things help enrich our lives and tie us together in a common bond.

Most of the people in Appomattox work very hard five or six days a week and just because on Friday or Saturday night when most of the "cultural" programs are being presented they would rather watch television at home does not make them "ignorant" and "unable to enjoy cultural entertainment."

I do not feel cheated and yet I am a young person in this growing community. May I never lose sight of this humble heritage.

Sincerely,
Tracy Chernault

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3g	27.00	25.00

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Society News

AARP plans Christmas party

The American Association of Retired Persons will hold their annual Christmas party Thursday evening, Dec. 11 at the Pamplin United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall beginning at 6:30 p.m.

There will be a covered dish supper, after which the newly elected officers will be sworn in by the very interesting Sam Crocket of Lynchburg.

Mr. Sam Crocket has been a speaker at the chapter on one other occasion and was considered by all to be a most interesting speaker. He is expected to have his wife with him, who is a very charming woman.

A large attendance is expected but try to be present too, the more the merrier.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Clayton, their daughter, Donna, of Union, N. J.; also Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clayton of Salem, Virginia, were visitors of the Stevens relatives and friends over the holiday weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Shelby Huffman and children of Monticello, Arkansas were recent guests in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Grishaw of Evergreen.

Employees honored

Continental Telep h o n e honored seven employees for their 110 years of service during a dinner at the Winton Country Club in Clifford, December 5.

The employees honored were: Thurman Ruble for 30 years of service, Ted Layne for 25 years, David Austin and Fred Perry for 15 years, Lewis Burke and Patricia Gowen for 10 years, and Perry Crush for five years.

Conrad Logan, state administrative services manager, and C rge Edwards, state network design manager were on hand to present the awards.

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